



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** NABORS  
PAUL

**Hometown:** LACKAWANNA

**Address:**

- Vietnam Era
- Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** (UNKNOWN)

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

Served in War Zone    **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** VIETNAM

**Service Notes:**

Paul Nabors honorably served in the United States Military / Paul Nabors was deployed to Vietnam

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

The Vietnam Service Medal is a military award of the United States Armed Forces established on 8 July 1965 by order of President Lyndon B. Johnson / The medal is awarded to recognize service during the Vietnam War by all members of the U.S. Armed Forces provided they meet the award requirements / Bronze Service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, also known as the Vietnam Campaign Medal is a South Vietnamese military campaign awarded during the Vietnam War (Second Indochina War), the South Vietnamese government awarded the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device (1960–) to members of the U.S. military for support of operations in Vietnam In May 1966 / The medal was awarded for two different periods of service in Vietnam / The first period for the award was from 8 March 1949 to 20 July 1954 / The second period was from 1 January 1960 to the end of the Vietnam War

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **NABORS  
PAUL**

**Hometown:** LACKAWANNA

**Address:**

- Vietnam Era
- Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** (UNKNOWN)

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

**Served in War Zone**    **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** VIETNAM

**Service Notes:**

Paul Nabors honorably served in the United States Military / Paul Nabors was deployed to Vietnam

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **NAGY, JR.**

**LOUIS J.**

**Hometown:** ORCHARD PARK

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** MARINE CORPS

**Rank:** LCPL

**Year Entered:** 1958

**Year Discharged:** 1961

**Unit / Squadron:**

2ND MARINE DIVISION, FLEET MARINE FORCE

**Medals / Citations:**

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

**Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Lance Corporal Louis J. Nagy, Jr. honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / LCPL Louis Nagy was assigned as a Rifleman / LCPL Nagy served 18 months of foreign service and his final duty assignment was as a Military Policeman at 2nd Marine Division, Fleet Marine Force, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina

**Base Assignments:**

Camp LeJeune, North Carolina - Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune is a 246-square-mile United States military training facility in Jacksonville, North Carolina / Constructed in 1942, the base is named in honor of the 13th Commandant of the Marine Corps, John A. Lejeune / Its 14 miles of beaches make the base a major area for amphibious assault training, and its location between two deep-water ports (Wilmington and Morehead City) allows for fast deployments / One of the satellite facilities of Camp Lejeune served for a while as a third boot camp for the Marines, in addition to Parris Island and San Diego

**Miscellaneous:**

Louis J. Nagy, Jr. passed away on 29 March 2023

Infantryman or Rifleman refers to soldiers moving and fighting on foot, armed with hand weapons such as rifles, machine guns, grenades, mortars, etc.

The 2nd Marine Division (2nd MARDIV) is a division of the United States Marine Corps, which forms the ground combat element of the II Marine Expeditionary Force (II MEF) / The division is based at Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, North Carolina / During World War II, the 2nd Marine Division (Headquarters) participated in operations in the Pacific Theater of Operations: the Guadalcanal Campaign, in the Solomon Islands campaign,



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the Battle of Tarawa, the Gilbert Islands campaign, the Battle of Saipan, the Battle of Tinian and the Battle of Okinawa / The Division didn't take part in a major action again until 1958 when elements participated in the U.S. intervention into the Lebanon crisis of 1958 / 2nd Marine Division units helped to reinforce Guantanamo Bay during the Cuban Missile Crisis in 1962 and landed in the Dominican Republic in 1965 as part of Operation Power Pack / Other peacekeeping operations carried on by the Division include being part of the Multi National Peacekeeping Force in Lebanon from August 1982 until February 1984 / The Division suffered the loss of 238 Marines and Sailors during the 1983 Beirut barracks bombing, plus 3 U.S. Army personnel attached to the unit

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The U.S. Navy's variant of the Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The Good Conduct Medal is awarded to any active duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** NAHREBESKI, SR.  
EDWARD

**Hometown:** LACKAWANNA

**Address:**

- Vietnam Era
- Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: VIETNAM

**Service Notes:**

Edward J. Nahrebeski honorably served in the United States Navy / Edward Nahrebeski was deployed to Vietnam

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Edward J. Nahrebeski, Sr. passed away on 3 November 2023 at the age of 75 years old and is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery, Lackawanna, New York

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served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **NATANSKI**  
**FRANK**

**Hometown:** LACKAWANNA

**Address:**

- Vietnam Era*
- Vietnam War Veteran*

**Service Branch:** (UNKNOWN)

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

*Served in War Zone*    **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** VIETNAM

**Service Notes:**

Frank Natanski honorably served in the United States Military / Frank Natanski was deployed to Vietnam

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

The Vietnam Service Medal is a military award of the United States Armed Forces established on 8 July 1965 by order of President Lyndon B. Johnson / The medal is awarded to recognize service during the Vietnam War by all members of the U.S. Armed Forces provided they meet the award requirements / Bronze Service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **NATIELLA**

**JOSEPH**

**R.**

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** COL

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

**Served in War Zone**      **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Colonel Joseph R. Natiella honorably served in the United States Army Reserve for 28 years

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Joseph Natiella was born in Utica, NY / Natiella graduated from Utica College and Georgetown University School of Dentistry / Joseph Natiella practiced dentistry with his father until 1966 when he entered specialty training at The State University at Buffalo in Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology / Natiella achieved Board Diplomate status in 1971 and taught at the School of Dental Medicine for 37 years and retired as a full professor in 2006 / Natiella retired to Bonita Springs, Florida / Joseph R. Natiella, DDS passed away on 18 September 2024 at the age of 89 Years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **NAWROT**  
**MARTIN C.**

**Hometown:** EAST CONCORD

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** COAST GUARD

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

**Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Martin C. Nawrot honorably served in the United States Coast Guard

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Martin C. Nawrot passed away on 27 May 2024 at the age of 81 years old and is interred at Lakeside Cemetery, Hamburg, New York



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **NEAL**  
**CARY**

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**Address:** 427 MADISON STREET

- Vietnam Era*  
 *Vietnam War Veteran*

**Service Branch:** MARINE CORPS

**Rank:** PFC

**Year Entered:** 1966

**Year Discharged:** KIA

**Unit / Squadron:**

1ST MARINE DIVISION, 1ST BATTALION, 1ST MARINES, C COMPANY

**Medals / Citations:**

- |                                |   |
|--------------------------------|---|
| PURPLE HEART                   | VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL                   |
| VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL         | COMBAT ACTION RIBBON                    |
| MARKSMANSHIP BADGE             | MARINE CORPS PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION |
| VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS        | MARINE CORPS EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL        |
| NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL | GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL                      |

- Served in War Zone*    *Theater of Operations / Assignment:* VIETNAM

**Service Notes:**

Private First-Class Cary Neal honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / PFC Cary Neal was deployed to Vietnam as a Rifleman / PFC Cary Neal was Killed In Action on 28 December 1966 from enemy small arms fire during combat operations in Quang Nam province

After a small squad of Marines were inserted by helicopter (CH46) in a small landing zone in a dense mountain jungle area, they were hit with heavy enemy fire / The small squad of Marines and took heavy casualties, including Private First-Class Cary Neal, who was hit from behind and died instantly

**Base Assignments:**

Parris Island Marine Corps Recruit Depot, South Carolina - Abbreviated as MCRD, Parris Island is an 8,095-acre military installation located within Port Royal, South Carolina, approximately 5 miles south of Beaufort / MCRD Parris Island is used for United States Marine Corps Recruit Training of enlisted United States Marines / Recruits living east of the Mississippi River report there to receive initial training / Marines were first assigned to Parris Island on 26 June 1891 with military buildings and family quarters constructed between 1891 / World War I formed the nucleus of the Parris Island and was officially designated a Recruit Depot / From 1941 to 1945, the Marines trained 204,509 recruits there, and at the time of the Japanese surrender, the Depot contained more than 20,000 recruits / The Korean War began in 1950, when 2,350 recruits were in training / From then until the 1st Marine Division withdrew from Korea, Parris Island drill instructors trained more than 138,000 recruits / In



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March 1952, the training load peaked at 24,424 recruits / The recruit tide again flooded during the years of the Vietnam War, reaching a peak training load of 10,979 during March 1966

Camp LeJeune, North Carolina - Marine Corps Base Camp LeJeune is a 246-square-mile United States military training facility in Jacksonville, North Carolina / Constructed in 1942, the base is named in honor of the 13th Commandant of the Marine Corps, John A. Lejeune / Its 14 miles of beaches make the base a major area for amphibious assault training, and its location between two deep-water ports (Wilmington and Morehead City) allows for fast deployments / One of the satellite facilities of Camp Lejeune served for a while as a third boot camp for the Marines, in addition to Parris Island and San Diego

## *Miscellaneous:*

Cary Neal enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps in April 1966, during his senior year at Boys Vocational High School / Cary Neal was 18 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Forest Lawn Cemetery, Buffalo, New York

Cary Neal is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 13e, Line 93

The 1st Marine Division (1st MARDIV) is a Marine division of the United States Marine Corps headquartered at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, California / It is the ground combat element of the I Marine Expeditionary Force (I MEF) / It is the oldest and largest active duty division in the United States Marine Corps, representing a combat-ready force of 22,000 personnel / It is one of three active duty divisions in the Marine Corps today and is a multi-role, expeditionary ground combat force. It is nicknamed "The Old Breed" / The division is employed as the ground combat element (GCE) of the I Marine Expeditionary Force or may provide task-organized forces for assault operations and such operations as may be directed / The 1st Marine Division must be able to provide the ground amphibious forcible entry capability to the naval expeditionary force (NEF) and to conduct subsequent land operations in any operational environment / In March 1966, the 1st Marine Division Headquarters was established at Chu Lai, South Vietnam / By June 1966, the entire division was in South Vietnam, its Tactical Area of Responsibility (TAOR) was the southern two provinces of I Corps — Quang Tin and Quang Ngai / In August 1966 the division conducted Operation Colorado / Between March and October 1966 to May 1967, the division conducted 44 named operations and the division received its 7th Presidential Unit Citation for service from 29 March 1966 to 15 September 1967 / By April 1971, the Division was back in the United States / During combat actions in Vietnam, the 1st Marine Division lost 7,012 men killed in action / In 1975, the division supported the resettlement of South Vietnamese refugees by providing food and temporary shelter at Camp Pendleton for Vietnamese refugees as they arrived in the United States

1st Battalion, 1st Marines (1/1) is an infantry battalion in the United States Marine Corps based out of Camp Pendleton, California, consisting of anywhere from 800 to 2,000 Marines and Sailors, but the number fluctuates depending on the battalion's mission / Falling under the command of the 1st Marine Regiment and the 1st Marine Division, they are commonly referred to as "The First of the First" / The battalion has been organized around fire and maneuver warfare in tropical, woodland, desert, or Arctic environments / 1/1 deployed to Da Nang, Republic of Vietnam in August 1965 and were reassigned to the 3rd Marine Division / They remained in Vietnam until May 1971, serving in or around Da Nang, Dong Ha, Con Thien, Quảng Trị, Hue, Phu Bai and Khe Sanh / They returned to Camp Pendleton, California, in May 1971



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The Purple Heart was instituted in 1782 by George Washington and is the first and oldest military American decoration / The Purple Heart is awarded to military service members wounded or killed in action, in the latter case posthumously

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The Combat Action Ribbon (colloquially "CAR"), is a high precedence United States Navy, United States Coast Guard, and United States Marine Corps military decoration awarded to United States sea service members "who have actively participated in ground or surface combat" / Coast Guardsmen, Navy sailors, and Marines active in clandestine, stealth or special operations are deemed eligible for consideration of the award / The U.S. Navy first authorized the Combat Action Ribbon on 17 February 1969 / The CAR is awarded to members of the Navy and Marine Corps with a rank no higher than captain and colonel, respectively

A Marksmanship Badge is a U.S. military badge or a civilian badge which is awarded to personnel upon successful completion of a weapons qualification course (known as marksmanship qualification badges) or high achievement in an official marksmanship competition (known as marksmanship competition badges) / The U.S. Army and the U.S. Marine Corps are the only military services that award marksmanship qualification badges / The U.S. military marksmanship qualification badges are awarded in three grades (highest to lowest): expert, sharpshooter, and marksman while their marksmanship competition badges are awarded in three to four grades (highest to lowest): distinguished, silver, and bronze for the U.S. Army and distinguished, gold, silver, and bronze for the Marine Corps

The Presidential Unit Citation, originally called the Distinguished Unit Citation, is awarded to units of the United States Armed Forces for extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy on or after 7 December 1941

The Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross Medal, also known as the Vietnamese Gallantry Cross or Vietnam Cross of Gallantry is a military decoration of the former Government of South Vietnam (Republic of Vietnam) / The medal was created on August 15, 1950 and was awarded to military personnel, civilians, and Armed Forces units and organizations in recognition of deeds of valor or heroic conduct while in combat with the enemy / Individuals who received the medal, ribbon, and a citation were personally cited at the Armed Forces, Corps, Division, Brigade or Regiment level / The United States military began authorizing the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross in March 1968 with retroactive presentation of the decoration to 1961

The Marine Corps Expeditionary Medal is a military award of the United States Marine Corps / It was established



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on 8 May 1919 as the Marine Corps Expeditionary Ribbon / To be awarded the Marine Corps Expeditionary Medal, a Marine must have engaged in a landing on foreign territory, participated in combat operations against an opposing force, or participated in a designated operation for which no other service medal is authorized / After 1961, some commands permitted eligible personnel to choose between the Marine Corps Expeditionary Medal, or the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, depending on the nature of the operation in question

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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** NEAL

FRANK J.

**Hometown:** WILLIAMSVILLE

**Address:**

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

**Service Notes:**

Frank J. A. Neal honorably served in the United States Navy / Frank Neal graduated from the United States Naval Academy, Class of 1967

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Frank Neal was a graduate o St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute / After his Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Navy, Frank Neal worked as a Pump Specialist for 33 years with the family business, Root, Neal and Company / Neal was an avid runner, completing 13 marathons and served as Director of Admissions for the 1977 Skylon Buffalo to Niagara Falls Marathon / Frank J. A. Neal passed away on 1 September 2025 at the age of 81 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** NEILL

JOHN

P.

**Hometown:** LACKAWANNA

**Address:**

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** (UNKNOWN)

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

Served in War Zone **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** VIETNAM

**Service Notes:**

John P. Neill honorably served in the United States Military / John Neill was deployed to Vietnam

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **NELSON**  
**RICHARD**

**Hometown:** GRAND ISLAND

**Address:**

- Vietnam Era**
- Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** AIR FORCE

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:** 1956

**Year Discharged:** 1960

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

**Served in War Zone**     **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Richard Nelson honorably served in the United States Air Force

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Richard Nelson graduated from Tonawanda High School in 1955 / Nelson attended Mars Hill College, North Carolina and received a Bachelor of Arts Degree in History & Religion in 1965 / Richard Nelson's schooling led to his life's work in church choral music and youth ministry / Richard Nelson passed away on 21 April 2015 at the age of 76 years old



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** NERI

BRIAN N.

**Hometown:** BOSTON

**Address:**

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: VIETNAM

**Service Notes:**

Brian N. Neri honorably served in the United States Army / Brian Neri was deployed to Vietnam and fought in the seige of Dak To, Vietnam

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Brian Neri was a History Teacher at Buffalo Lafayette High School for 32 years / After his retirement, Neri learned how to fly taildragger planes and piloted a World War Spitfire / Brian Neri was a member of the British Car Club of WNY, the Buffalo Amateur Radio Repeater Association, Secretary to the Empire State West (local chapter of the Military Vehicle Preservation Association) / Neri was also a member of the Canadian Vintage Motorcycle Club, Riley RM Club and the Morris Minor Club / Brian Neri was a World War II reenactor at Fort Niagara and Town Gap, Pennsylvania / Brian N. Neri passed away on 13 December 2024 at the age of 81 years old

Featuring two wheels in front of the plane's center of gravity and a smaller tailwheel supporting the rear, "taildragger" aircraft are known for requiring a separate set of skills, particularly for landing

The battle of Dak To in Vietnam was a series of major engagements of the Vietnam War that took place between 3 and 23 November 1967, in Kon Tum Province, in the Central Highlands of the Republic of Vietnam (South Vietnam) / The action at Dak To was one of a series of People's Army of Vietnam (PAVN) offensive initiatives that began during the second half of the year / PAVN attacks at Loc Ninh (in Binh Long Province), Song Be (in Phuoc Long Province) and at Con Thien and Khe Sanh, (in Quang Tri Province), were other actions which, combined with Dak To, became known as "the border battles" / The purported objective of the PAVN forces was to distract American and South Vietnamese forces away from cities towards the borders in preparation for the Tet Offensive



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** NESBITT

CALVIN I.

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**Address:**

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** MARINE CORPS

**Rank:** PFC

**Year Entered:** 1967

**Year Discharged:** KIA

**Unit / Squadron:**

3RD MARINE DIVISION, 1ST BATTALION, 4TH MARINES, D COMPANY

**Medals / Citations:**

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MARINE CORPS PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

MARINE CORPS EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

COMBAT ACTION RIBBON

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

Served in War Zone **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** VIETNAM

**Service Notes:**

Private First-Class Calvin Ian Nesbitt honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / PFC Calvin Nesbitt was deployed to Vietnam on 30 November 1967 as a Machine Gunner / PFC Calvin Nesbitt was Killed In Action on 26 April 1968 from enemy small arms fire, 1 km W of Con Thien, Quang Tri Province, South Vietnam

Upon completion of his training in the US, Calvin received orders for Vietnam and arrived in Da Nang, Vietnam on 30 November 1967 where he was assigned for duty with Company "D", 1st Battalion, 4th Marines, 3d MARDDIV (Rein) FMF / On 26 April 1968, elements of Company "D" were dispatched as a reaction force to assist Company "A" which was in heavy contact with NVA forces, west of Con Thien in Quang Tri Province / After a heavy engagement with the enemy in fortified positions, the Marines cleared the area and were able to recover their casualties / One of the men who was killed during the engagement was PFC Calvin Nesbitt / PFC Nesbitt died as a result of a hostile gunshot wound to his body

Thousands of Canadians served in Vietnam and over 100 are listed on The Vietnam Wall / PFC Nesbitt entered the Marine Corps from Buffalo, yet he was born and raised in Guelph, Ontario, Canada

**Base Assignments:**

Parris Island Marine Corps Recruit Depot, South Carolina - Abbreviated as MCRD, Parris Island is an 8,095-acre military installation located within Port Royal, South Carolina, approximately 5 miles south of Beaufort / MCRD



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Parris Island is used for United States Marine Corps Recruit Training of enlisted United States Marines / Recruits living east of the Mississippi River report there to receive initial training / Marines were first assigned to Parris Island on 26 June 1891 with military buildings and family quarters constructed between 1891 / World War I formed the nucleus of the Parris Island and was officially designated a Recruit Depot / From 1941 to 1945, the Marines trained 204,509 recruits there, and at the time of the Japanese surrender, the Depot contained more than 20,000 recruits / The Korean War began in 1950, when 2,350 recruits were in training / From then until the 1st Marine Division withdrew from Korea, Parris Island drill instructors trained more than 138,000 recruits / In March 1952, the training load peaked at 24,424 recruits / The recruit tide again flooded during the years of the Vietnam War, reaching a peak training load of 10,979 during March 1966

## *Miscellaneous:*

Calvin Nesbitt was born in Guelph, Ontario, Canada / Nesbitt joined the U.S. Marine Corps in June 1967 / Calvin Ian Nesbitt was 19 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Woodlawn Memorial Park, Guelph, Ontario, Canada

Calvin Ian Nesbitt is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 52e, Line 22

Marine Corps Machine Gunners are responsible for the deployment, care, mounting, and unmounting of heavy machine guns / There are several types of heavy machine guns / The primary mission of these machine guns is to provide overwhelming firepower while in a firefight or while suppressing an enemy position / While on foot patrol, the machine guns are carried in support of infantry platoons or light armored reconnaissance units / On convoys, the machine gunners are responsible for mounting and utilizing heavy machine guns in the form of 50-caliber or 40 mm heavy machine guns / Machine gunners are usually referred to as "31s" by the other infantry Marines in their platoon or battalion

The 3rd Marine Division is a division of the United States Marine Corps based at Camp Courtney, Marine Corps Base Camp Smedley D. Butler in Okinawa, Japan / It is one of three active duty infantry divisions in the Marine Corps and together with the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing (1stMAW) and the 3rd Marine Logistics Group (3rd MLG) forms the III Marine Expeditionary Force (III MEF) / The division was first formed during World War II and saw four years of continuous combat in the Vietnam War / Today, elements of the 3rd Marine Division are continuously forward deployed and forward postured to carry out the US Government's mission of a Free and Open Indo-Pacific in conjunction with its sister services

1st Battalion, 4th Marines (1/4) is an infantry battalion in the United States Marine Corps based out of Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, California consisting of approximately 800 Marines and sailors / They fall under the command of the 1st Marine Regiment and the 1st Marine Division / The battalion was originally activated in April 1911 as the 1st Battalion, 4th Marine Regiment / The battalion first saw combat in November 1916 in the Dominican Republic / The outbreak of World War II found the battalion serving as part of the U.S. Forces defending the Philippines / In the spring of 1965 the battalion deployed to combat in South Vietnam / From 1965 to 1969 the battalion engaged in numerous conventional and counter-insurgency operations in the I Corps / Some of the major operations that 1/4 was involved in were Operation Prairie, Operation Beacon Hill, Operation Prairie IV, Operation Deckhouse IV, Operation Kentucky, Operation Purple Martin and Operation Napoleon/Saline would be fought from places such as the Rockpile, Camp Carroll, Con Thien and Ca Lu Combat



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Base / In November 1969 the battalion was redeployed to Okinawa and would also serve off the coast of Vietnam / The battalion participated in the rescue of the SS Mayaguez in May 1975

The Purple Heart was instituted in 1782 by George Washington and is the first and oldest military American decoration / The Purple Heart is awarded to military service members wounded or killed in action, in the latter case posthumously

The Vietnam Service Medal is a military award of the United States Armed Forces established on 8 July 1965 by order of President Lyndon B. Johnson / The medal is awarded to recognize service during the Vietnam War by all members of the U.S. Armed Forces provided they meet the award requirements / Bronze Service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, also known as the Vietnam Campaign Medal is a South Vietnamese military campaign awarded during the Vietnam War (Second Indochina War), the South Vietnamese government awarded the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device (1960–) to members of the U.S. military for support of operations in Vietnam In May 1966 / The medal was awarded for two different periods of service in Vietnam / The first period for the award was from 8 March 1949 to 20 July 1954 / The second period was from 1 January 1960 to the end of the Vietnam War

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The Marine Corps Expeditionary Medal is a military award of the United States Marine Corps / It was established on 8 May 1919 as the Marine Corps Expeditionary Ribbon / To be awarded the Marine Corps Expeditionary Medal, a Marine must have engaged in a landing on foreign territory, participated in combat operations against an opposing force, or participated in a designated operation for which no other service medal is authorized / After 1961, some commands permitted eligible personnel to choose between the Marine Corps Expeditionary Medal, or the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, depending on the nature of the operation in question



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **NEUBAUER**  
**GORDON P.**

**Hometown:** WEST SENECA

**Address:**

- Vietnam Era*
- Vietnam War Veteran*

**Service Branch:** MARINE CORPS

**Rank:** CPL

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

- Served in War Zone*     **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** VIETNAM

**Service Notes:**

Corporal Gordon P. Neubauer honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / CPL Gordon Neubauer was deployed to Vietnam

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Gordon P. Neubauer passed away on 15 July 1989 at the age of 43 years old



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **NEWCOMER**  
**ROBERT**

**Hometown:** HAMBURG

**Address:**

- Vietnam Era*
- Vietnam War Veteran*

**Service Branch:** (UNKNOWN)

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

- Served in War Zone*    **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** VIETNAM

**Service Notes:**

Robert Newcomer honorably served in the United States Military / Robert Newcomer was deployed to Vietnam

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

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# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **NEWMAN**

**LOUIS C.**

**Hometown:** **BUFFALO**

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** **NAVY**

**Rank:** **E-3**

**Year Entered:** **1956**

**Year Discharged:** **1959**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**USS CASCADE**

**Medals / Citations:**

**Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Seaman (SN) Louis C. Newman honorably served in the United States Navy / The majority of SN Louis Newman's sea service was aboard the USS Cascade (AD-16), a Naval Destroyer Tender that tended the East Coast based destroyer squadrons

SN Louis Newman was Honorably Discharged from the U.S. Navy on 11 September 1959

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Louis Newman Louis drove for the Buffalo Courier Express Newspaper and drove a semi-truck for a food distributor, Desiderio's in Buffalo / Louis C. Newman passed away on 13 April 2023 at the age of 84 years old

USS Cascade (AD-16), the only ship of its class, was a destroyer tender in the United States Navy / Originally designed as a passenger-freighter, the Cascade was launched on 6 June 1942 by Western Pipe and Steel Company in San Francisco, California / Cascade cleared San Francisco on 12 June 1943 for Pearl Harbor, where she began her war time duty of tending destroyers / As the war moved westward, Cascade followed, bringing her support close to the action areas / From November 1943, she was stationed successively at Kwajalein, Eniwetok, and Ulithi, while the ships she served ranged the Pacific, escorting convoys, screening carrier task forces, supporting invasions, and carrying out many other tasks with typical destroyer versatility / Cascade was the flagship of Service Squadron 4 in 1943 / In June 1945, Cascade sailed to Okinawa, where she endured the suicide raids and typhoon weather / She left Okinawan waters in September to serve in Wakayama, Japan and later at Tokyo, Japan, supporting the occupation until March 1946, when she sailed for the East Coast / Cascade was decommissioned and placed in service in reserve at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on 12 February 1947 /



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Recommissioned on 5 April 1951, Cascade was based in Newport, Rhode Island, as tender for the many destroyers home-ported there / From Newport she cruised to the Caribbean and the Mediterranean to support the destroyers serving in the Sea / During this time Cascade served as flagship, and carried the flag of commander, Service Force, 6th Fleet, and the flag of commander, Destroyer Flotilla 6 / She also served as flagship for commander, Destroyer Force, Atlantic / She served in this role as flagship and tender up through 1963 / From 1970 to 1974, the Cascade was forward deployed to the Mediterranean, homeported in Naples Italy / The Cascade was decommissioned on 22 November 1974 and struck from the Naval Register on 23 November 1974 / She was subsequently sold for scrap to Luria Brother of Brooklyn, New York, and dismantled at the Gulmar Yard in Brownsville, Texas starting September 1975 / The anchor, along with mooring cleats, ended up at the front entrance of Danville High School in Danville, Kentucky / The USS Cascade received one battle star for World War II service



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **NEWMAN**

**RODERICK D.**

**Hometown:** EAST AURORA

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** E-4

**Year Entered:** 1960

**Year Discharged:** 1962

**Unit / Squadron:**

COMPANY-E, 1ST BRIGADE, 30TH INFANTRY

**Medals / Citations:**

**Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Specialist 4th Class Roderick Davis Newman honorably served in the United States Army / SP-4 Roderick Newman was deployed for 20 months of active duty in Germany serving as a Heavy Weapons Infantryman

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Roderick Newman was Honorably Discharged from the Army on 23 April 1962 / Roderick Davis Newman passed away on 12 June 2019

Heavy Weapons Infantryman employ, engage, and eliminate threats with a variety of heavy weapons, in an Infantry Brigade Combat Team (IBCT) and Heavy Weapons Company / Heavy Weapons Infantryman support Battalion Commanders mission with the versatility of the Weapons Company capabilities providing close and long-range missile and heavy machine gun fires and provides anti-armor tactics

The 30th Infantry Division was a unit of the Army National Guard in World War I and World War II / It was nicknamed the "Old Hickory" division, in honor of President Andrew Jackson / The 30th Infantry Division was regarded as the number one American infantry division in the European Theater of Operations (ETO), involved in 282 days of intense combat over a period from June 1944 through April 1945



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **NEWTON**  
**RONALD D.**

**Hometown:** WILLIAMSVILLE

**Address:**

- Vietnam Era**
- Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** E-5

**Year Entered:** 1959

**Year Discharged:** 1963

**Unit / Squadron:**

31ST AIR DEFENSE ARTILLERY BRIGADE

**Medals / Citations:**

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER (CARBINE RIFLE)

**Served in War Zone**     **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Specialist Fifth-Class Ronald D. Newton honorably served in the United States Army / SP-5 Ronald Newton served as an Air Defense Fire Distribution System Crewman and was attached to the 31st Air Defense Artillery Brigade at Lockport Air Force Station, Lockport, NY

**Base Assignments:**

Lockport Air Force Station, Lockport, NY - Lockport Air Force Station is a closed United States Air Force ADCOM General Surveillance Radar station in Cambria, New York / Initially established at Fort Niagara in 1950 before relocating to Lockport site, it was a joint USAF and US Army station from 1951 to 1969 / The Air Defense squadron inactivated on 29 June 1979 / The key infrastructure of three radomes (AN/FPS-7 and twin AN/FPS-6 radars) were demolished / Today the former station is partially vacant with base apartments for private use and commercial redevelopment

**Miscellaneous:**

Ronald D. Newton passed away on 1 December 2021

The 31st Air Defense Artillery Brigade was constituted on 1 January 1918, during World War I, in the National Army as Headquarters, 31st Heavy Artillery Brigade, Coast Artillery Corps at Key West, Florida but would see numerous name changes over the lifetime of the unit / The unit, commanded by Brigadier General George Washington Gatchell, rapidly transitioned into World War I where the brigade earned four battle streamers for participation in the campaigns Aisne-Marne, Oise-Aisne, Meuse-Argonne, and Champagne 1918 / The 31st Brigade was deployed to the European Theater in World War II where it participated in and earned three more



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battle streamers for campaigns in Rome-Arno, Southern France, and the Rhineland / On 30 June 1946, the brigade was deactivated at Laned-Sebold, Germany / This unit would encounter numerous activations and inactivations over the years to come to include a 1946 inactivation in Germany, reactivation in 1948 at Fort Bliss, Texas and in 1958 was reorganized as Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 31st Artillery Brigade / The headquarters was inactivated in 1960 at McChord Air Force Base, Washington and then reactivated on 15 December 1961 at Lockport Air Force Station, N.Y., as the 31st Artillery Brigade (Air Defense) / In response to the Cuban Missile Crisis, the brigade was set up with nine Hercules and Hawk battalions defending southern Florida from attack by Cuba and the Soviet Union

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The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The U.S. Navy's variant of the Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The Good Conduct Medal is awarded to any active duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses

A Marksmanship Badge is a U.S. military badge or a civilian badge which is awarded to personnel upon successful completion of a weapons qualification course (known as marksmanship qualification badges) or high achievement in an official marksmanship competition (known as marksmanship competition badges) / The U.S. Army and the U.S. Marine Corps are the only military services that award marksmanship qualification badges / The U.S. military marksmanship qualification badges are awarded in three grades (highest to lowest): expert, sharpshooter, and marksman while their marksmanship competition badges are awarded in three to four grades (highest to lowest): distinguished, silver, and bronze for the U.S. Army and distinguished, gold, silver, and bronze for the Marine Corps



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** NICHOLSON

DENNIS J.

**Hometown:**

**Address:** LACKAWANNA

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** MARINE CORPS

**Rank:** E-1

**Year Entered:** 1968

**Year Discharged:** 1971

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

**Service Notes:**

Private Dennis J. Nicholson honorably served in the United States Marine Corps as an Administrator

Dennis Nicholson received his Honorable Discharge from the United States Marine Corps on 23 April 1971

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Dennis J. Nicholson passed away on 8 April 2018

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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **NICHTER**  
**KURT** **W.**

**Hometown:** HAMBURG

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** MARINE CORPS

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

**Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Kurt W. Nichter honorably served in the United States Marine Corps

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Kurt W. Nichter passed away on 21 January 2025 at the age of 71 years old

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# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** NIEMCZAL

EUGENE E.

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**Address:**

- Vietnam Era
- Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** SP-4

**Year Entered:** 1965

**Year Discharged:** 1967

**Unit / Squadron:**

144TH SIGNAL BATTALION, 7TH U.S. ARMY

**Medals / Citations:**

NATIONAL DEFENSE RIBBON

Served in War Zone    **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** VIETNAM

**Service Notes:**

Corporal Eugene Edward Niemczal honorably served in the United States Army / CPL Eugene Niemczal was trained as a Cryptographer Machine Operator

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** NIGHTENGALE

TIMOTHY J.

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**Address:** 51 ALTRURIA STREET

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** MARINE CORPS

**Rank:** PFC

**Year Entered:** 1967

**Year Discharged:** KIA

**Unit / Squadron:**

1ST BATTALION, 9TH MARINES, A COMPANY

**Medals / Citations:**

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

COMBAT ACTION RIBBON

ARMY PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

MARINE CORPS EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment: VIETNAM

**Service Notes:**

Private First-Class Timothy James Nightengale honorably served in the United States Marine Corps / PFC Timothy Nightengale was deployed to Vietnam on 7 February 1968 as a Rifleman / PFC Timothy Nightengale was Killed In Action on 6 April 1968 from an enemy explosive device in Quang Tri Province, South Vietnam

In April 1968, the Battalion was operating in northern Quang Tri Province in the Huong Hoa District and during Operation PEGASUS the unit was the first to move out to seize Hill 471 two kilometers south and Hill 552 two kilometers southwest of the Khe Sanh Combat Base / During the advance on their objectives the Marine were confronted the NVA in well prepared and concealed defensive positions, as well as supporting arms fire, rocket and artillery fire slowed their advance in the heavy mountainous terrain / During the first two days of fire fights thirteen men were killed in the battles with enemy forces and one of the casualties was PFC Timothy Nightengale, killed by fragmentation wounds from a hostile explosive device / PFC Nightengale had been in Vietnam for 58 days at the time of his passing

PFC Timothy J. Nightengale was the only member of Platoon 3035 to be KIA in Viet Nam

**Base Assignments:**

Parris Island Marine Corps Recruit Depot, South Carolina - Abbreviated as MCRD, Parris Island is an 8,095-acre military installation located within Port Royal, South Carolina, approximately 5 miles south of Beaufort / MCRD



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Parris Island is used for United States Marine Corps Recruit Training of enlisted United States Marines / Recruits living east of the Mississippi River report there to receive initial training / Marines were first assigned to Parris Island on 26 June 1891 with military buildings and family quarters constructed between 1891 / World War I formed the nucleus of the Parris Island and was officially designated a Recruit Depot / From 1941 to 1945, the Marines trained 204,509 recruits there, and at the time of the Japanese surrender, the Depot contained more than 20,000 recruits / The Korean War began in 1950, when 2,350 recruits were in training / From then until the 1st Marine Division withdrew from Korea, Parris Island drill instructors trained more than 138,000 recruits / In March 1952, the training load peaked at 24,424 recruits / The recruit tide again flooded during the years of the Vietnam War, reaching a peak training load of 10,979 during March 1966

## *Miscellaneous:*

Timothy Nightengale enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps on 30 August 1967 while a senior at South Park High School / Nightengale worked at the main office of the Manufacturers & Traders Trust Company / Timothy James Nightengale was 18 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery in Lackawanna, New York

Timothy James Nightengale is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 48e, Line 31

The 1st Battalion 9th Marines (1/9) was an infantry battalion of the United States Marine Corps / Formed during World War I, it served until the mid-2000s when it was deactivated to make room for one of three light armor reconnaissance battalions / During the Vietnam War, the unit earned the name "The Walking Dead" for its high casualty rate / The battalion endured the longest sustained combat and suffered the highest killed in action (KIA) rate in Marine Corps history, especially during the Battle of July Two / The battalion was engaged in combat for 47 months and 7 days, from 15 June 1965 to 19 October 1966 and 11 December 1966 to 14 July 1969 / Based on a typical battalion strength of 800 Marines and Navy hospital corpsmen, 2,892 Marines passed through the unit over those 47 months; 747 were killed in action (KIA) and 2 were missing in action (MIA)

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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **NIGOL**  
**RAEMO**

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**Address:**

- Vietnam Era**
- Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** (UNKNOWN)

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

**Served in War Zone**     **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Raemo Nigol honorably served in the United States Armed Forces

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Raemo Nigol passed away on 25 October 2025 at the age of 73 years old and is interred at the Western New York National Cemetery, Corfu, New York



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **NOGLE**

**THOMAS E.**

**Hometown:** GRAND ISLAND

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** NAVY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:** 1959

**Year Discharged:** 1962

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

**Served in War Zone**      **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Thomas E. Nogle honorably served in the United States Navy

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Thomas Nogle worked for GM Tonawanda Forge for 30 years, retiring in 1998 / Thomas E. Nogle passed away on 1 October 2023 at the age of 82 years old and is interred at Elmlawn Memorial Park Cemetery, Buffalo, New York



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **NORRIS**  
**DEAN**

**Hometown:** HAMBURG

**Address:**

- Vietnam Era
- Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** (UNKNOWN)

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

- Served in War Zone     **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** VIETNAM

**Service Notes:**

Dean Norris honorably served in the United States Military / Dean Norris was deployed to Vietnam

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

The Vietnam Service Medal is a military award of the United States Armed Forces established on 8 July 1965 by order of President Lyndon B. Johnson / The medal is awarded to recognize service during the Vietnam War by all members of the U.S. Armed Forces provided they meet the award requirements / Bronze Service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, also known as the Vietnam Campaign Medal is a South Vietnamese military campaign awarded during the Vietnam War (Second Indochina War), the South Vietnamese government awarded the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device (1960–) to members of the U.S. military for support of operations in Vietnam In May 1966 / The medal was awarded for two different periods of service in Vietnam / The first period for the award was from 8 March 1949 to 20 July 1954 / The second period was from 1 January 1960 to the end of the Vietnam War

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **NORTHWAY**

**ROBERT J.**

**Hometown:** CLARENCE

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

**Served in War Zone**      **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Robert J. Northway honorably served in the United States Army

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Robert J. Northway passed away on 15 January 2026 at the age of 88 years old and is interred at Clarence Fillmore Cemetery, Clarence, New York



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **NOWAK**

**LEONARD L.**

**Hometown:** **BUFFALO**

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** **MARINE CORPS**

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

**Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Leonard L. Nowak honorably served in the United States Marine Corps

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

After receiving his Honorable Discharge from the United States Marine Corps, Leonard Nowak earned an Associate of Applied Science (AAS), Bachelors Degree (BA) and his Master of Business Administration (MBA) from the State University of New York at Buffalo / Nowak worked for the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for 36 years before retiring / Leonard L. Nowak passed away on 19 February 2024 at the age of 83 years old and is interred at Arlington National Cemetery, Virginia



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **NOWAK**

**MARTIN**

**E.**

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** MARINE CORPS

**Rank:** E-4

**Year Entered:** 1966

**Year Discharged:** 1969

**Unit / Squadron:**

HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, 7TH ENGINEER SUPPORT BATTALION, III MARINE AMPHIBIOUS FORCE

**Medals / Citations:**

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL W/2 BRONZE SERVICE STARS

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE: SHARPSHOOTER (RIFLE)

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

**Served in War Zone** **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** VIETNAM

**Service Notes:**

Corporal Martin E. Nowak honorably served in the Marine Corps / CPL Martin Nowak was deployed to Vietnam for 13 months as a Surveyor

Martin Nowak was Honorably Discharged from the US Marine Corps on 18 March 1969

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Martin E. Nowak passed away on 8 June 2020 at the age of 73 years old and is interred at Elmlawn Cemetery, Tonawanda, New York

The 7th Engineer Support Battalion (7th ESB – "Big Red") is an engineering support unit of the United States Marine Corps and is headquartered at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, California / The unit falls under the command of 1st Marine Logistics Group and the I Marine Expeditionary Force / The mission of the 7th Engineer Support Battalion is to provide general engineering support of an expeditionary nature to the Marine Expeditionary Force (MEF), to include mobility, counter mobility and survivability enhancements, Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD), and general supply support to include the handling, storage and distribution of bulk water and fuel

The Vietnam Service Medal is a military award of the United States Armed Forces established on 8 July 1965 by



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

order of President Lyndon B. Johnson / The medal is awarded to recognize service during the Vietnam War by all members of the U.S. Armed Forces provided they meet the award requirements / Service stars were awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, also known as the Vietnam Campaign Medal is a South Vietnamese military campaign awarded during the Vietnam War (Second Indochina War), the South Vietnamese government awarded the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device (1960–) to members of the U.S. military for support of operations in Vietnam In May 1966 / The medal was awarded for two different periods of service in Vietnam / The first period for the award was from 8 March 1949 to 20 July 1954 / The second period was from 1 January 1960 to the end of the Vietnam War

A Marksmanship Badge is a U.S. military badge or a civilian badge which is awarded to personnel upon successful completion of a weapons qualification course (known as marksmanship qualification badges) or high achievement in an official marksmanship competition (known as marksmanship competition badges) / The U.S. Army and the U.S. Marine Corps are the only military services that award marksmanship qualification badges / The U.S. military marksmanship qualification badges are awarded in three grades (highest to lowest): expert, sharpshooter, and marksman while their marksmanship competition badges are awarded in three to four grades (highest to lowest): distinguished, silver, and bronze for the U.S. Army and distinguished, gold, silver, and bronze for the Marine Corps

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **NOWICKI**

**RICHARD M.**

**Hometown:** ORCHARD PARK

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** AIR FORCE

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

74TH INFANTRY

**Medals / Citations:**

**Served in War Zone**      **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Richard M. Nowicki honorably served in the United States Air Force

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Richard Nowicki was a member of the Buffalo and Erie County Naval and Military Park / Richard M. Nowicki passed away on 6 April 2025 at the age of 88 years old



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** NOWORYTA

JOHN

A.

**Hometown:** CHEEKTOWAGA

**Address:**

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

Served in War Zone    **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** VIETNAM

**Service Notes:**

John A. Noworyta honorably served in the United States Army and was deployed to Vietnam

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

John Noworyta retired from the United States Postal Service (USPS) / Noworyta was a member of the American Legion Post #63, Lackawanna, New York / John A. Noworyta passed away on 21 October 2024 at the age of 83 years old and is interred at Holy Cross Cemetery, Lackawanna, New York



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **NUGENT**

**DONALD J.**

**Hometown:** DEPEW

**Address:**

**Vietnam Era**

**Vietnam War Veteran**

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:**

**Year Entered:**

**Year Discharged:**

**Unit / Squadron:**

**Medals / Citations:**

**Served in War Zone**      **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

**Service Notes:**

Donald J. Nugent honorably served in the United States Army

**Base Assignments:**

**Miscellaneous:**

Donald Nugent retired from Tops Markets after 47 years / Nugent was a member of the OLBS School Board / Donald J. Nugent passed away on 2 November 2025 at the age of 79 years old



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

**Name:** **NURZYNSKI**

**JOSEPH A.**

**Hometown:** BUFFALO

**Address:** 212 FOX STREET

*Vietnam Era*

*Vietnam War Veteran*

**Service Branch:** ARMY

**Rank:** SP5

**Year Entered:** 1968

**Year Discharged:** KIA

**Unit / Squadron:**

11TH LIGHT INFANTRY BRIGADE, 4TH BATTALION, 3RD INFANTRY, HEADQUARTERS COMPANY

**Medals / Citations:**

BRONZE STAR MEDAL

PURPLE HEART

VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL

VIETNAM CAMPAIGN MEDAL

COMBAT INFANTRYMAN BADGE

MARKSMANSHIP BADGE

ARMY PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

*Served in War Zone* **Theater of Operations / Assignment:** VIETNAM

**Service Notes:**

Specialist Fifth-Class Joseph Anthony Nurzynski honorably served in the United States Army / SP-5 Joseph Nurzynski was deployed to Vietnam as an Infantry Operations and Intelligence Specialist / SP5 Joseph Nurzynski was Killed In Action on 12 May 1969 from multiple fragmentation wounds suffered during combat operations in Quang Ngai Province, South Vietnam

In the early morning of 12 May 1969, Recon Platoon, E Company, 4th Battalion, 3rd Infantry, 11th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division, was settled into a night defensive position (NDP) in the middle of a rice paddy in the vicinity of LZ Razorback in Quang Ngai Province, RVN / They had been directed the previous day to set up in this position, and the new platoon leader, compliantly following orders, had his 18-strong team dig fighting holes after dark / Their vulnerable position did not go unnoticed by the local Viet Cong who observed unseen the American patrols, and a little after midnight, 60mm mortar rounds began falling on Recon's NDP / The results were devastating / Five members of the patrol were killed, including four which were hit by the same round, and another who recklessly lay on an air mattress / Another eight were wounded / They were evacuated for immediate medical care to a U.S. Army medical unit within with 11th Brigade headquarters at LZ Bronco in Duc Pho / There the dead were identified at Graves Registration by the previous platoon leader who had refused the mission and was subsequently relieved of his command / The lost Recon troopers were SP5 Joseph A. Nurzynski, SP4 Bruce E. Peteroy, PFC Michael J. Sturgill, SP4 Charles Thomas Jr., and SP4 Samuel L. Wable



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

SP5 Joseph Nurzynski was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service in a combat zone

## *Base Assignments:*

## *Miscellaneous:*

Joseph Nurzynski was a graduate of Transfiguration School and Bishop Ryan High School / Nurzynski attended the State University of Buffalo before entering the U.S. Army on 28 April 1968 / Joseph Anthony Nurzynski was 24 years old at the time of his passing and is interred at Saint Adalberts Roman Catholic Cemetery, Cheektowaga, New York

Joseph Anthony Nurzynski is honored on the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington D.C. - Name inscribed at VVM Wall, Panel 25w, Line 79

Intelligence Specialists play a key role in ensuring that military operations are planned using the most accurate, current information about enemy forces and capabilities / They oversee efforts to collect, exploit, develop, analyze, and produce intelligence information for dissemination to key military leaders

The 11th Light Infantry Brigade was formed as part of the US Army's 6th Division during WWI. Activated November of 1917 / Its elements at that time were the 51st Infantry Regiment, 52nd Infantry Regiment, 16th Machine-Gun Battalion and the 11th Field Artillery / The 11th Light Infantry Brigade is best known for its service with the 23rd Infantry Division, AMERICAL Division during the Vietnam War from 1967 to 1971 / The 11th Light Infantry in early 1967, trained extensively in jungle operations in preparation for deployment to Vietnam / The 11th LIB was deployed during the Vietnam War and served the US Army's 23rd Infantry Division, The AMERICAL Division

The 4th Battalion, 3rd Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard) was constituted 3 June 1784 in the Regular Army as a company of the First American Regiment / Redesignated 15 April 1966 as Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 4th Battalion, 3d Infantry (organic elements concurrently constituted) / Battalion activated 1 July 1966 in Hawaii and assigned to the 11th Infantry Brigade / On 15 August 1967, the 11th Infantry Brigade adopted the "light Infantry" concept

The Bronze Star Medal (BSM) is a is the fourth-highest individual military award and the ninth-highest by order of precedence in the United States Armed Forces / The Bronze Star is awarded to members of the United States Armed Forces for either heroic achievement, heroic service, meritorious achievement, or meritorious service in a combat zone / When the medal is awarded by the Army and Air Force for acts of valor in combat, the "V" Device is authorized for wear on the medal

The Purple Heart was instituted in 1782 by George Washington and is the first and oldest military American decoration / The Purple Heart is awarded to military service members wounded or killed in action, in the latter case posthumously

The Vietnam Service Medal is a military award of the United States Armed Forces established on 8 July 1965 by order of President Lyndon B. Johnson / The medal is awarded to recognize service during the Vietnam War by all members of the U.S. Armed Forces provided they meet the award requirements / Bronze Service stars were



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Town of West Seneca, New York

awarded to all services for participation in designated campaigns

The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, also known as the Vietnam Campaign Medal is a South Vietnamese military campaign awarded during the Vietnam War (Second Indochina War), the South Vietnamese government awarded the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device (1960–) to members of the U.S. military for support of operations in Vietnam In May 1966 / The medal was awarded for two different periods of service in Vietnam / The first period for the award was from 8 March 1949 to 20 July 1954 / The second period was from 1 January 1960 to the end of the Vietnam War

The Combat Infantryman Badge (CIB) is a United States Army military decoration. The badge is awarded to infantrymen and Special Forces soldiers in the rank of colonel and below, who fought in active ground combat while assigned as members of either an Infantry or Special Forces unit of brigade size or smaller at any time after 6 December 1941

A Marksmanship Badge is a U.S. military badge or a civilian badge which is awarded to personnel upon successful completion of a weapons qualification course (known as marksmanship qualification badges) or high achievement in an official marksmanship competition (known as marksmanship competition badges) / The U.S. Army and the U.S. Marine Corps are the only military services that award marksmanship qualification badges / The U.S. military marksmanship qualification badges are awarded in three grades (highest to lowest): expert, sharpshooter, and marksman while their marksmanship competition badges are awarded in three to four grades (highest to lowest): distinguished, silver, and bronze for the U.S. Army and distinguished, gold, silver, and bronze for the Marine Corps

The Presidential Unit Citation, originally called the Distinguished Unit Citation, is awarded to units of the United States Armed Forces for extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy on or after 7 December 1941

The Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross Medal, also known as the Vietnamese Gallantry Cross or Vietnam Cross of Gallantry is a military decoration of the former Government of South Vietnam (Republic of Vietnam) / The medal was created on August 15, 1950 and was awarded to military personnel, civilians, and Armed Forces units and organizations in recognition of deeds of valor or heroic conduct while in combat with the enemy / Individuals who received the medal, ribbon, and a citation were personally cited at the Armed Forces, Corps, Division, Brigade or Regiment level / The United States military began authorizing the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross in March 1968 with retroactive presentation of the decoration to 1961

The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) is a service award of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953 / It is awarded to every member of the US Armed Forces who has served during any one of four specified periods of armed conflict or national emergency from 1950 to the present / Combat or "in theater" service is not a requirement for the award

The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States Armed Forces / The U.S. Navy's variant of the Good Conduct Medal was established in 1869, the Marine Corps version in 1896, the Coast Guard version in 1923, the Army version in 1941, and the Air Force version in 1963 / The Good Conduct Medal is awarded to any active duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of "honorable and faithful service" / Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed



# Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



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Town of West Seneca, New York

without any non-judicial punishment, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses